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                         BEFORE THE
                 ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION
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   IN THE MATTER OF:
 3
   SHAWN J. O'FARRELL,
 4 KAZMIER TOOLING, INC.,
5
                                   ) No. 11-0589
6 COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY
7 Complaint as to billing/charges)
   in Chicago, Illinois.
8
9
                               Chicago, Illinois
                               September 20, 2011
10
            Met pursuant to notice at 11:00 a.m.
11
   BEFORE:
12
       MR. JOHN RILEY, Administrative Law Judge.
13 APPEARANCES:
       MR. SHAWN J. O'FARRELL
14
       6001 South Oak Park Avenue
15
       Chicago, Illinois 60638
         appeared pro se;
16
       MR. MARK L. GOLDSTEIN
17
       3019 Province Circle
18
       Mundelein, Illinois 60060
         appeared for Respondent.
19
20
   SULLIVAN REPORTING COMPANY, by
21 Teresann B. Giorgi, CSR
22
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1		<u>I</u> <u>N</u> <u>D</u> <u>E</u> <u>X</u>
2	Witnesses:	Re- Re- By Dir. Crx. dir. crx. Examiner
3	NONE	DII. CIA. GII. CIA. BAGIIIICI
4	NONE	
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8		<u>E X H I B I T S</u>
9	APPLICANT'S	FOR IDENTIFICATION IN EVIDENCE
10	MITHICANI B	TOR IDENTIFICATION IN EVIDENCE
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- 1 JUDGE RILEY: Pursuant to the direction
- 2 of the Illinois Commerce Commission, I call
- 3 Docket 11-0589. This is a complaint by
- 4 Shawn J. O'Farrell and Kazmier Tooling, Inc., versus
- 5 Commonwealth Edison Company as to billing and
- 6 charges in Chicago, Illinois.
- 7 Mr. O'Farrell, you are proceeding
- 8 without an attorney at this point, is that correct?
- 9 MR. O'FARRELL: Yes.
- 10 JUDGE RILEY: And are you the owner of Kazmier
- 11 Tooling?
- 12 MR. O'FARRELL: I am.
- 13 JUDGE RILEY: And, Mr. Goldstein, you are here
- 14 for Commonwealth Edison?
- 15 MR. GOLDSTEIN: That is correct, Judge.
- My address is 3019 Province Circle,
- 17 Mundelein, Illinois 60060. My telephone number is
- 18 847-949-1340.
- 19 With me today is Monica Merino of
- 20 ComEd.
- 21 JUDGE RILEY: Okay. Thank you.
- Mr. O'Farrell, very briefly, the

- 1 Commonwealth Edison account in question, is that in
- 2 your name or in the name of Kazmier Tooling?
- 3 MR. O'FARRELL: I believe it's in Kazmier
- 4 Tooling.
- 5 JUDGE RILEY: Plain reading of your complaint,
- 6 it simply says sometime in April of this year you
- 7 got a bill --
- 8 MR. O'FARRELL: Actually, it was March.
- 9 JUDGE RILEY: Well, I'm just reading off what it
- 10 says on the complaint.
- But it just says that without any
- 12 notice or warning suddenly you had been charged an
- 13 additional \$2,081.72 for 2 years back rent and
- 14 \$86.72 per month for special equipment rental.
- MR. O'FARRELL: That's true.
- 16 JUDGE RILEY: And you have no idea where that
- 17 came from or what it's all about.
- 18 MR. O'FARRELL: That equipment was installed.
- 19 It was paid -- I paid to have it installed on public
- 20 property so they could provide me with the
- 21 electricity that I needed to run my company. And
- 22 that was back in 1991.

- 1 JUDGE RILEY: That was the special equipment
- 2 that you --
- 3 MR. O'FARRELL: That they're claiming that they
- 4 uncovered, is what they told me, they uncovered
- 5 this.
- 6 JUDGE RILEY: "Uncovered it."
- 7 MR. O'FARRELL: Yeah, that's was their
- 8 explanation to me, it was uncovered.
- 9 And then I asked the question, Who
- 10 covered it up? And I didn't get a real good
- 11 response.
- 12 JUDGE RILEY: So that means the equipment was
- 13 below ground or --
- MR. O'FARRELL: No, it's on a pole in the alley.
- 15 You see it's in the letter --
- 16 MS. MORENO: In 1991 the equipment was
- 17 installed?
- 18 MR. O'FARRELL: I had it installed. Yeah, my
- 19 contractor had sat down with Commonwealth Edison,
- 20 because I needed more electricity when I moved into
- 21 this location, and Commonwealth Edison and the
- 22 contractor came up with the amount -- I needed an

- 1 800 amp service at 480 and they provided the
- 2 transformers on the pole. And what size the
- 3 transformers were at that time was none of my
- 4 business because they were just providing me with
- 5 the power I needed to run my business.
- 6 JUDGE RILEY: Well, you're getting 2 different
- 7 rent bills now. You said ComEd charged you \$2,081
- 8 for 2 years back rent and then \$86.72 per month for
- 9 special equipment rental.
- 10 MR. O'FARRELL: Yeah.
- 11 JUDGE RILEY: What is --
- MR. O'FARRELL: They add it on to my standard
- 13 bill.
- 14 JUDGE RILEY: I understand that.
- 15 But my question is, what is the 2,081
- 16 rent? What did you rent -- what --
- 17 MR. O'FARRELL: I didn't. They tell me that was
- 18 back rent for the transformers that were hanging in
- 19 the alley that provided me with the electricity I
- 20 had brought -- paid for --
- 21 JUDGE RILEY: Okay.
- MR. O'FARRELL: -- paid to have installed in

- 1 their alley. They own the equipment to provide me
- 2 with the electricity I needed to run my business.
- 3 And at that time in 1991, they had no problem doing
- 4 that for me.
- 5 JUDGE RILEY: Right. But what is the \$86 --
- 6 MR. O'FARRELL: That's what they want to
- 7 continually charge me every month now rental fee.
- 8 JUDGE RILEY: Oh, I see.
- 9 MR. O'FARRELL: They said that they uncovered
- 10 this and they went back 2 years with it, said they
- 11 could do that, what reason, I don't know what they
- 12 say. They said because they uncovered it, which I
- 13 don't understand that at all. Because as I
- 14 understand it, I have 2 meters on the property, one
- 15 is the original meter and then the second meter.
- 16 Commonwealth Edison reads both these meters. And
- 17 one is provided right off the bank of transformers
- 18 that delivers my electricity from the new service
- 19 that was provided back in 1991.
- 20 JUDGE RILEY: So for the 2081, it's 2 years back
- 21 rent and that brings you up to date, according to
- 22 them, and then they want 86.72 going forward.

- 1 MS. MORENO: Going forward.
- 2 JUDGE RILEY: What is Commonwealth Edison's
- 3 response?
- 4 MS. MORENO: Well, the \$2,081.28 is a 2 year
- 5 back bill that's pursuant to Part 2.8100 for the
- 6 unbilled services. We can go back 2 years and
- 7 recover the rental charges that we failed to ask in
- 8 the account. And so -- they equipment was installed
- 9 1991, he was never billed that rental fee until we
- 10 did a performance field audit and found out that the
- 11 rental fee was indeed required. So based on the
- 12 Part 2.8100 we went back the 2 years to do the back
- 13 bill. We didn't go back to 1991. We just went back
- 14 the 2 years pursuant to Part 2.8100. And then
- 15 moving forward it will be 86.72 a month.
- 16 JUDGE RILEY: So this was ComEd's mistake that
- 17 they just forgot to bill it -- excuse me, ComEd
- 18 forgot to apply the rental fee --
- 19 MS. MORENO: That is correct.
- 20 JUDGE RILEY: -- to this equipment for all these
- 21 years --
- 22 MS. MORENO: Right.

- 1 JUDGE RILEY: -- and then when you discovered
- 2 the mistake you've gone back 2 years to --
- 3 MS. MORENO: And we did a field audit that
- 4 discovered that.
- 5 MR. GOLDSTEIN: And you sent Mr. O'Farrell a
- 6 letter, too.
- 7 MS. MORENO: And we sent the customer a letter
- 8 explaining, you know, what we found on the field
- 9 audit and the charges only going back 2 years and
- 10 then the charges moving forward.
- 11 MR. O'FARRELL: This is the first letter that
- 12 was not delivered to me, but was delivered to my
- 13 electric seller. Since they've been deregulated we
- 14 have had, probably 3 different -- or 4 different
- 15 companies that provide -- sold us electricity that
- 16 they maintained. All right.
- 17 Now from the years that they had the
- 18 electric bill to 2002, I was never charged a rental
- 19 and they provided me with the electric bill at that
- 20 time. All right.
- 21 And then we were deregulated and then
- 22 we were able to buy at a cheaper price from an

- 1 outside source who sells the electricity for
- 2 Commonwealth Edison. And that was something that
- 3 the Commerce Commission did, or something, I don't
- 4 know, back in 2002.
- 5 And I don't understand the reason --
- 6 like I said, we had to consult Edison. We had a new
- 7 service brought in. All right. And they had no
- 8 issues at all with providing me with the power I
- 9 needed because that's what I was understanding they
- 10 did.
- Now, they own the bank of
- 12 transformers, I don't. They can turn around and
- 13 issue electric power to anybody in that area off
- 14 that bank of transformers and I can't say a word to
- 15 it. All right. And, again, that bank of
- 16 transformers have been up since 1991, and all of a
- 17 sudden now they want to -- I think they've changed
- 18 the way they're doing business.
- 19 JUDGE RILEY: Well, according to Ms. Moreno's
- 20 explanation is that it was simply an oversight,
- 21 apparently, by Commonwealth Edison all these years.
- MR. O'FARRELL: That's not a very good

- 1 explanation, is it?
- JUDGE RILEY: Well, I'm not permitted to make a
- 3 judgment on that. But it is what it is.
- 4 MR. O'FARRELL: I disagree, it's not what it is.
- 5 What it is in the past proves to stand by itself,
- 6 doesn't it?
- JUDGE RILEY: I'm sorry?
- 8 MR. O'FARRELL: Does -- the past proves to stand
- 9 by itself. For 19 years they've provided me with
- 10 this service at no rental fee. All right. At any
- 11 time I never signed a contract that I would pay for
- 12 any rental fee. This special equipment is not on my
- 13 property. It's in an alley on a bank of
- 14 transformers.
- 15 MR. GOLDSTEIN: The equipment is used to provide
- 16 service to you. You have to pay a rental charge.
- 17 MR. O'FARRELL: I was never told I had to.
- 18 MR. GOLDSTEIN: The real issue that you have, as
- 19 far as I'm concerned, Mr. O'Farrell, and you can
- 20 correct me if I'm wrong, is that you really object,
- 21 first of all to having to go back 2 years and being
- 22 charged -- going back 2 years from the date of the

- 1 field audit for these facilities. And you also
- 2 object on a going-forward basis to pay for the
- 3 rental of the facilities, am I correct?
- 4 MR. O'FARRELL: Yes. But it's true in both
- 5 cases. All right.
- 6 MR. GOLDSTEIN: So you don't want to pay for --
- 7 so is the solution to the problem, on the
- 8 going-forward basis, that ComEd removes the
- 9 facilities so that you cannot use the facilities?
- 10 Do you understand what I'm trying to
- 11 say?
- MR. O'FARRELL: Is Commonwealth Edison --
- MR. GOLDSTEIN: On a going-forward basis.
- MR. O'FARRELL: Is Commonwealth Edison going to
- 15 refuse to provide electricity to my provider who
- 16 provides it to me? Now, you see we're dealing with
- 17 a middleman, who should be here, too, right?
- 18 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Well, I can't deal with the
- 19 middleman. You're the customer --
- 20 MR. O'FARRELL: I deal with MC Squared.
- 21 MR. GOLDSTEIN: -- with respect to the
- 22 facilities that are being provided. The energy that

- 1 MC Squared provides you is a totally separate issue.
- 2 MR. O'FARRELL: Say it again.
- 3 MR. GOLDSTEIN: The energy that MC Squared
- 4 provides you is a totally separate issue with
- 5 relation to the facilities that are being provided
- 6 you by ComEd.
- 7 MR. O'FARRELL: Now, the question I believe that
- 8 is here, is that at one time ComEd had no problem
- 9 issuing facilities to provide a customer with the
- 10 electricity he needed. All right. And now that the
- 11 situation has charged where you are being --
- 12 Commonwealth Edison -- not yourself -- but
- 13 Commonwealth Edison is being squeezed, all right,
- 14 for profit and they have figured a way that they can
- 15 turn around -- this is my -- this is how I perceive
- 16 it to be -- is that they figured a way to squeeze
- 17 customers for more profit.
- 18 Because in all reality, it doesn't
- 19 change the amount of electricity I use. The only
- 20 thing that it does -- the only thing that it does,
- 21 it takes the possibility of taking -- how -- why I'm
- 22 able to receive the electricity I buy, all right,

- 1 take that away from me.
- 2 And if you had another solution for me
- 3 to buy it from somebody else, I sure would.
- 4 JUDGE RILEY: Mr. Goldstein, I guess my question
- 5 is, what explanation would Commonwealth Edison have
- 6 for not knowing for almost 2 decades --
- 7 MR. GOLDSTEIN: I can't answer that, Judge.
- 8 JUDGE RILEY: -- they should have been applying
- 9 rent?
- 10 MR. GOLDSTEIN: I can't answer that question.
- 11 MS. MORENO: And if you don't mind, Judge, we
- 12 have a rider in place, it's called the Nonstandard
- 13 Services and Facilities Rider. It allows ComEd to
- 14 charge the customer for these charges. So there's
- 15 tariffs in place that allow ComEd to do that. And,
- 16 you know, irrelevant of why or why not we charged
- 17 him in the past, the bottom line is that
- 18 Part 2.8100 allows ComEd to do the 2 year unbilled
- 19 balance for the 2 years for that commercial account.
- JUDGE RILEY: And that's the issue.
- 21 MS. MORENO: And again, you know, he may not
- 22 have gotten billed back in 1991, so good for him, he

- 1 benefitted from not having to pay those charges.
- 2 But moving forward and pursuant to
- 3 Part 2.8100 we can back bill for the 2 years and
- 4 moving forward. And we're more than happy to write
- 5 an answer to the complaint and make reference to the
- 6 Rider, Nonstandard Services and Facilities.
- 7 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Or in the alternative we just
- 8 set it for evidentiary hearing. We'll bring
- 9 somebody in to discuss the tariff and so forth.
- 10 JUDGE RILEY: So Commonwealth Edison's position
- 11 isn't going to change then.
- 12 MS. MORENO: No. The tariff is the tariff. And
- 13 we have to follow the tariff.
- JUDGE RILEY: Mr. O'Farrell, that's pretty much
- 15 the situation as it stands right now. Commonwealth
- 16 Edison is going to stand by the billings that
- 17 they've sent you.
- 18 You are certainly entitled to your day
- 19 in court and to a full evidentiary hearing to
- 20 contest the charges.
- 21 MS. MORENO: And Part 2.8100 also, your Honor --
- 22 not only do we go back the 2 years, but we can put

- 1 that balance on a payment agreement. And if it's
- 2 going back to 2 years back bill, we can put that
- 3 balance on a payment agreement for 2 years, finance
- 4 free, no down payment. And that's all pursuant to
- 5 the Illinois Administrative Code.
- 6 MR. O'FARRELL: Now, is Commonwealth Edison
- 7 willing to provide with the contract and the
- 8 paperwork, it originally put in the bank of
- 9 transformers and at what point they claim that I'm
- 10 supposed to rent this stuff.
- 11 And then the other thing, does it get
- 12 prorated?
- 13 JUDGE RILEY: I think that's a good question.
- What he's asking, was there an
- 15 original rental agreement back when the facilities
- 16 were installed.
- 17 MR. O'FARRELL: I paid to have Commonwealth
- 18 Edison come in and I paid for the labor. They paid
- 19 for the equipment back in 1991. I had to put in
- 20 special boxes and everything to transport this
- 21 service into my yard and I had to pay for that. But
- 22 as long as they were outside of my property, on the

- 1 pole, that's their equipment.
- 2 MS. MORENO: But it's servicing you.
- 3 MR. O'FARRELL: Do they have the right to take
- 4 that power and issue it to others -- distribute that
- 5 power to other people off of that bank of
- 6 transformers, to anywhere on that block? Or is that
- 7 a question you don't have an answer for?
- 8 MS. MORENO: Yeah.
- 9 MR. O'FARRELL: Uh?
- 10 MS. MORENO: That is a question.
- 11 But to service you, you require the
- 12 extra voltage and that's why those Nonstandard --
- MR. O'FARRELL: But I paid for the extra
- 14 voltage.
- MR. GOLDSTEIN: And I'm just looking at this for
- 16 the first time. It looks to me, Judge, that there
- 17 are certain transformers that are servicing
- 18 Mr. O'Farrell's property and that's what he's being
- 19 charged for, those particular transformers. And, I
- 20 guess, it is what it is. And so they calculated the
- 21 rental charges.
- We'll just have to have somebody come

- 1 in and testify to all this, what facilities there
- 2 are that are being provided by ComEd to
- 3 Mr. O'Farrell and how they calculate the charges.
- 4 MR. O'FARRELL: Now, again, is they chose to put
- 5 a bank of transformers up in the alley. Now what
- 6 they're telling, because we did have an audit,
- 7 because we insisted upon it once we got the
- 8 billing -- the note inside our bill from MC Squared,
- 9 who is our provider, we were not notified ourselves
- 10 by Commonwealth Edison. We had to go through an
- 11 awful lot of red tape to find out what the hell was
- 12 going on. Excuse the language.
- 13 And then when we did is that our
- 14 explanation is exactly what they're standing on
- 15 here. Now this is -- like I said, it looks like
- 16 Commonwealth has taken this chance to provide
- 17 themselves with a way of doing business. All right.
- 18 And maybe I'm not talking -- I'm just blowing smoke.
- 19 But it doesn't seem like the thing to do, you know.
- 20 If you were sitting there doing
- 21 business with somebody for 20 years and all of a
- 22 sudden they turn around and says, Now we're going to

- 1 rent it to you. We gave it to you, you know. We
- 2 gave you the equipment so we could provide you with
- 3 the ability to buy the electricity from us and now
- 4 we're going to rent the equipment and still sell you
- 5 the electricity we are able to provide you because
- 6 of that equipment. And that's exactly what's going
- 7 on.
- 8 JUDGE RILEY: So it's your contention there was
- 9 never a rental agreement to begin with.
- 10 MR. O'FARRELL: Oh, there wasn't. And they know
- 11 that.
- 12 MS. MORENO: I'll look for that.
- 13 JUDGE RILEY: I'm sorry?
- 14 MS. MORENO: I'll be looking for that.
- 15 MR. O'FARRELL: We were consulted -- my
- 16 contractor and myself consulted Commonwealth Edison.
- 17 They decided -- we didn't tell them -- we told them
- 18 what we needed inside the plant. All right. And
- 19 they decided what they would put for their equipment
- 20 to provide me with the electricity so they could
- 21 sell me the amount of electricity that I needed to
- 22 run my business.

- 1 Now what's going on is they decided
- 2 that -- 20 years later that they're going to turn
- 3 around and rent that equipment that they need to
- 4 provide me with the power I need to do business.
- 5 And that's exactly what's going on here. It's been
- 6 there for 20 years.
- 7 JUDGE RILEY: I understand that.
- 8 MR. O'FARRELL: Well, that's not right. I can't
- 9 understand how anybody could justify something like
- 10 that. It's just not the way things are done.
- 11 Unless, of course, this is a communist country and
- 12 they're stepping in big feet, you know. Right?
- JUDGE RILEY: Well, what we're down to then, is
- 14 Commonwealth Edison has made its position clear.
- 15 You've made your position clear.
- 16 MR. O'FARRELL: Yeah.
- 17 JUDGE RILEY: There doesn't seem to be any point
- 18 in going on here unless you were either willing to
- 19 accept a payment agreement or contest the charges at
- 20 a formal hearing.
- 21 MR. O'FARRELL: Oh, I'll contest the charges.
- 22 JUDGE RILEY: I shouldn't have said "contest the

- 1 charges." I mean to proceed with your complaint and
- 2 bring in your evidence. And I don't know --
- 3 MR. O'FARRELL: Can I ask your advice?
- 4 JUDGE RILEY: I can't act as counsel for either
- 5 side.
- 6 MR. O'FARRELL: Well, what is this all about
- 7 then?
- 8 JUDGE RILEY: I don't have any -- well, just to
- 9 provide you an opportunity to define the issues and
- 10 then to let you know that you are entitled to a
- 11 full -- to a day of evidentiary hearing or however
- 12 long it may take.
- MR. O'FARRELL: Then that's where we stand then.
- MS. MORENO: And ComEd will, you know, present
- 15 its tariffs in place that allows ComEd to bill you
- 16 and it is your burden of proof to show otherwise.
- 17 MR. O'FARRELL: I have the past as my burden of
- 18 proof.
- MR. GOLDSTEIN: Well, by the same token --
- 20 MR. O'FARRELL: I would think --
- 21 MR. GOLDSTEIN: -- by the same token,
- 22 Mr. O'Farrell, you may want to look at it as if you

- 1 did not have to pay those charges for 17 years.
- 2 MR. O'FARRELL: I don't believe I was ever
- 3 supposed to pay them charges. That's our problem
- 4 here. I think Commonwealth Edison has decided to do
- 5 business in 2011 in a new way with me and other
- 6 customers. I don't think I'm alone here. And as a
- 7 matter of fact, I know I'm not.
- 8 MR. GOLDSTEIN: I understand your position.
- 9 JUDGE RILEY: But that's something you would
- 10 have to prove at hearing and I don't know how you
- 11 would do that.
- 12 MR. O'FARRELL: Past proves it.
- JUDGE RILEY: Well, it would have to be some
- 14 tangible document or some type of testimony.
- 15 MR. O'FARRELL: I don't own the transformers.
- 16 JUDGE RILEY: There would have to be some hard
- 17 evidence that Commonwealth Edison has changed its
- 18 way of doing business, if that's what you believe
- 19 really has happened here.
- 20 MR. O'FARRELL: Well, they have. They're trying
- 21 to charge me rental fees on things they provided to
- 22 me for 20 years.

- 1 JUDGE RILEY: That would be --
- 2 MR. O'FARRELL: Change in business, wouldn't it?
- JUDGE RILEY: -- well, that would be up to you
- 4 to prove at hearing.
- 5 MR. O'FARRELL: That's why we're here. That's
- 6 not to be proven, they're doing that.
- 7 JUDGE RILEY: No, it has to be proven at hearing
- 8 with evidence. Unfortunately, that's --
- 9 MR. O'FARRELL: Well, isn't the billing evidence
- 10 enough?
- 11 JUDGE RILEY: Do you have prior bills -- do you
- 12 have any prior paperwork at all, at the time this
- 13 equipment was installed?
- MR. O'FARRELL: Do I?
- JUDGE RILEY: Do you have --
- 16 MR. O'FARRELL: I have bills.
- 17 JUDGE RILEY: Those would be --
- 18 MR. O'FARRELL: I think that stands by itself.
- 19 JUDGE RILEY: If you think the bills are going
- 20 to help you prove your case, then bring them in as
- 21 evidence.
- MR. O'FARRELL: Well, it proves that I haven't

- 1 been charged.
- JUDGE RILEY: Right.
- 3 MR. O'FARRELL: I don't know how far I can go
- 4 back. I don't think I'll go back the 19 years.
- 5 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Well, it's obvious he hasn't
- 6 been charged, Judge.
- 7 Can we set this for evidentiary
- 8 hearing, Judge.
- 9 JUDGE RILEY: That's about where we're at right
- 10 now, is either accept the payment agreement with
- 11 ComEd or contest the matter at hearing.
- MR. O'FARRELL: This is what, to determine we're
- 13 going to have a hearing -- we're going to go to
- 14 court. Aren't they in court?
- 15 JUDGE RILEY: No, it will probably will be in a
- 16 conference room just like this with me. I'll still
- 17 be the administrative law judge.
- 18 But that's where we are, it's either
- 19 accept a payment agreement for the amount that
- 20 you've been billed and accept the monthly rental fro
- 21 now on or --
- MR. O'FARRELL: If I was going to do that, I

- 1 would have done that already.
- 2 Right now I am paying the rental fee
- 3 just because it doesn't build up on me.
- 4 JUDGE RILEY: That's the \$86 per month.
- 5 MR. O'FARRELL: Yes, right. And I'm expecting
- 6 to get that back.
- 7 JUDGE RILEY: So you expect to get those charges
- 8 back plus the \$2,000 that they've billed you, to
- 9 have that --
- 10 MR. O'FARRELL: I didn't pay that.
- 11 JUDGE RILEY: -- have that eliminated, is what
- 12 you're saying.
- MR. O'FARRELL: Yeah.
- 14 JUDGE RILEY: Okay.
- 15 MR. O'FARRELL: And whatever late charges --
- 16 they actually made an attempt to put a mark on the
- 17 credit, but we -- that was MC Squared because --
- 18 here's the situation, is that they bill MC Squared,
- 19 MC Squared bills me. I refused to pay this payment
- 20 and MC Squared paid Commonwealth Edison, because I
- 21 guess that's under their contract, they have to.
- 22 Whatever they decide to bill them, they have to pay

- 1 them. I don't understand that. And then they
- 2 charge us for it and we were charged the late fee.
- 3 JUDGE RILEY: With MC Squared.
- 4 MR. O'FARRELL: Yeah. So, you know --
- 5 MS. MORENO: And I think -- unfortunately, I
- 6 think the bottom line is not a question of fact,
- 7 it's a question of law and it's ComEd's --
- 8 MR. O'FARRELL: Isn't law based on fact? Or is
- 9 law based on politics?
- 10 MS. MORENO: The tariffs in place are filed with
- 11 the Commission. The Commission has approved these
- 12 tariffs.
- MR. O'FARRELL: And at what time was the tariff
- 14 put in writing? What was the date of this tariff,
- 15 do you know?
- 16 MS. MORENO: Uh --
- 17 MR. GOLDSTEIN: You probably have the latest
- 18 copy of it.
- 19 MS. MORENO: Yeah, I have the latest copy of it.
- 20 MR. O'FARRELL: Now, I'm not a lawyer and I'm
- 21 not expected to understand this, but the thing
- 22 would be -- the date would be pretty critical,

- 1 wouldn't it? Because then they're telling me they
- 2 changed their way of doing business with their
- 3 customers.
- 4 MS. MORENO: I only have the most current
- 5 edition of the filing.
- 6 JUDGE RILEY: But when the tariffs are filed
- 7 isn't there a date of filing or if amended, isn't
- 8 there a date of amendment? So it may not be on that
- 9 copy, but --
- 10 MS. MORENO: Right.
- 11 JUDGE RILEY: -- but it might be posted on the
- 12 Commission Web site.
- 13 MS. MORENO: Yeah.
- JUDGE RILEY: Do you have access to a computer?
- 15 MR. O'FARRELL: Yeah.
- 16 JUDGE RILEY: Because those tariffs are public
- 17 information.
- 18 MS. MORENO: All our tariffs are posted on --
- MR. O'FARRELL: Well, I'm asking a general
- 20 question concerning the tariff, what was the date of
- 21 that?
- JUDGE RILEY: That's one thing you might want to

- 1 try and find out.
- 2 MR. O'FARRELL: Well, wouldn't that be relevant?
- JUDGE RILEY: Yes, it would, very possibly.
- 4 MR. O'FARRELL: Isn't it something they should
- 5 be willing to answer?
- 6 JUDGE RILEY: At hearing.
- 7 MS. MORENO: Yeah. We'll bring our witnesses
- 8 and they will -- not me -- I'll have a subject
- 9 matter expert to be a witness on ComEd's tariffs.
- 10 JUDGE RILEY: But you should be able to research
- 11 the tariffs in the meantime.
- MS. MORENO: Yeah, you should become aware of
- 13 them.
- MR. O'FARRELL: Well, can I have a copy of that
- 15 one?
- MS. MORENO: Yes. Sure.
- 17 JUDGE RILEY: Do you have any access to legal
- 18 counsel at all?
- MR. O'FARRELL: Well, you believe I should have
- 20 it?
- 21 JUDGE RILEY: I think --
- MR. O'FARRELL: Here's the situation, what is it

- 1 going to change in my situation?
- 2 JUDGE RILEY: I don't know. I just know that an
- 3 attorney is going to have a completely different
- 4 perspective on this than you have right now. He may
- 5 see things and be able to answer questions that you
- 6 might not be able to conjure up right now. And I
- 7 can't act as your counsel at hearing. You're going
- 8 to be on your own.
- 9 MR. O'FARRELL: As I see it, I stand alone. I
- 10 stand with what -- history. History, as far as I'm
- 11 concerned, that controls the situation, otherwise
- 12 they've decided to do business at a different way
- 13 with the customers.
- JUDGE RILEY: History is not evidence, that's
- 15 the problem. You've got to have hard evidence,
- 16 tangible documents --
- 17 MR. O'FARRELL: The billings.
- 18 JUDGE RILEY: -- testimony.
- MR. O'FARRELL: The billings.
- 20 JUDGE RILEY: Then bring the billings in.
- 21 MR. O'FARRELL: That's history.
- JUDGE RILEY: I think we've reached an impasse.

- 1 And today is the 20th of September.
- 2 What about October 20 at 11:00 a.m.?
- 3 MR. O'FARRELL: I won't be in town.
- 4 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Either will I. I'll be on
- 5 vacation. Thank you.
- 6 JUDGE RILEY: All right. Okay.
- 7 MR. GOLDSTEIN: I was looking at November 10th,
- 8 Judge.
- 9 JUDGE RILEY: November 10.
- 10 MR. O'FARRELL: That's all right with me.
- 11 MR. GOLDSTEIN: At 11:00 o'clock.
- 12 JUDGE RILEY: Thursday, November 10 at 11:00?
- 13 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Yes.
- JUDGE RILEY: And, Mr. O'Farrell, if you're
- 15 unable to hire an attorney, at least that might give
- 16 you a chance to consult with an attorney in the
- 17 meantime and get some advice as to how to proceed in
- 18 this matter, because you will be required to proceed
- 19 first when we come to hearing.
- 20 MR. O'FARRELL: The question would be now, will
- 21 I be charged court fees or something?
- JUDGE RILEY: No, no, nothing like that.

- 1 MR. O'FARRELL: That's the question.
- The only thing I could see is coming
- 3 out of this is that, as it stands right now I am
- 4 being charged everything as it goes along. All
- 5 right. They're not willing to remove any of their
- 6 excess charges, as far as I'm concerned. So then
- 7 what do I have to lose, you know.
- 8 I will consult an attorney to your
- 9 advice. All right. And see whether it's necessary
- 10 or not that he believes that I should need one in
- 11 this situation.
- 12 The thing of the tariff is something
- 13 new that comes into play that I was not given any
- 14 information to.
- 15 JUDGE RILEY: And that's definitely something
- 16 that you should research.
- 17 MR. O'FARRELL: Is there anything else that
- 18 Commonwealth Edison would like to give me, that they
- 19 have that I don't have?
- 20 MS. MORENO: No. Actually, the informal
- 21 complaint, it does say that the NS charges, the
- 22 Rider NS charges was explained to you, the details

- 1 of the NS Rider.
- 2 MR. O'FARRELL: I have every piece of --
- 3 Commonwealth Edison (indicating), Commonwealth
- 4 Edison (indicating), facilities rental services and
- 5 this is what they gave us (indicating), Commonwealth
- 6 Edison (indicating). I have nothing that states
- 7 anything about a rider or anything like that. So
- 8 that's news to me.
- 9 So, yeah, I'd like a copy of that
- 10 formal complaint or whatever that is.
- 11 MS. MORENO: Informal complaint. Okay, I'll
- 12 make sure you get that.
- 13 MR. O'FARRELL: How will I receive that?
- 14 MS. MORENO: We can mail it to you.
- 15 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Do you have an e-mail --
- 16 MR. O'FARRELL: kaztool@aol.com.
- 17 JUDGE RILEY: k-a-z-t-o-o-l --
- 18 MR. O'FARRELL: Right. -- @aol.com.
- 19 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Do we stand in adjournment,
- 20 Judge?
- JUDGE RILEY: Is there anything further?
- MR. O'FARRELL: Is there at time, 11:00 o'clock

- 1 then on November 10th?
- JUDGE RILEY: 11:00 a.m., right. And you'll be
- 3 receiving a notice confirming that date and time
- 4 from the Clerk's Office.
- 5 So we're set for November 10 at
- 6 11:00 a.m. and we'll proceed with a hearing at that
- 7 time.
- 8 MR. O'FARRELL: The other question I have, is
- 9 there any group, because I know this has happened to
- 10 other individuals out there, other companies that I
- 11 know are getting charged the same thing all of a
- 12 sudden.
- MS. MORENO: It's not class action.
- MR. O'FARRELL: Is there any group lawsuits
- 15 going on?
- 16 JUDGE RILEY: Class actions are prohibited by
- 17 our rules.
- 18 MR. O'FARRELL: No class actions related to this
- 19 situation?
- 20 JUDGE RILEY: No, none that I know of. No, this
- 21 stands alone.
- 22 All right. Then November 10 at

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1 11:00 a.m., we'll reconvene.
      MS. MORENO: Thank you, Judge.
 2
      MR. GOLDSTEIN: Thank you.
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 4
                          (Whereupon, the above-entitled
 5
                           matter was continued to
 6
                          November 10, 2011.)
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